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Eagles In The Pros: Wilcox, Williams Eyeing Super Bowl Runs

Four former GS players have successful NFL seasons



Football | 1/2/2017 1:10:00 PM

Story Links

STATESBORO - With the NFL regular season now complete, here's a look at how the four former Georgia Southern football players playing in the League fared in their respective campaigns. Two Eagles, J.J. Wilcox of the Cowboys and rookie Antwone Williams of the Lions, will see postseason action as their teams made the NFL Playoffs.

Three Eagles have played in the Super Bowl with two winning titles. Fred Stokes won a title with the Washington Redskins in Super Bowl XXVI and Earthwind Moreland got a ring with the New England Patriots from Super Bowl XXXIX. Adrian Peterson played in Super Bowl XLI, but the Chicago Bears lost the game.

Edwin Jackson, LB, Indianapolis Colts

Stats: 16 GP, 8 GS ... 66 tackles, 2.0 sacks

Wrap-Up: An undrafted free agent who was released by the Arizona Cardinals last year, Jackson went from trying to make the Colts' roster to being the starting linebacker for the last seven games the season. Jackson had at least seven tackles in each of those seven games, including a career-high 10 stops against Houston on Dec. 11.

Played at GS: 2011-2014; 2014 first-team All-Sun Belt Conference

Vitals: Atlanta, GA (Westlake HS)

Jerick McKinnon, RB, Minnesota Vikings

Stats: 15 GP, 7 GS ... 159 carries, 539 yards, 2 TDs; 43 receptions, 255 yards, 2 TDs

Wrap-Up: McKinnon saw his work load increase significantly in 2016 after the knee injury to starter Adrian Peterson. The former third-round draft pick in 2014 finished the season strong, running for a season-high 89 yards and a score while also picking up a receiving touchdown against the Chicago Bears in the finale.

Played at GS: 2010-2013; 2012 & 2013 first-team All-American, 2013 first-team All-Southern Conference

Vitals: Marietta, GA (Sprayberry HS)

J.J. Wilcox, S, Dallas Cowboys

Stats: 13 GP, 4 GS ... 49 tackles, 1 INT, 1 FF, 6 PD

Wrap-Up: Wilcox wasn't the regular starter this year like he was in 2015, but he's still had a big role for the NFC East champion Dallas Cowboys. The former third-round draft pick in 2013 had a season-high nine tackles against Pittsburgh in November and he and his teammates will have a bye in the first round of the Playoffs. Dallas will have home-field advantage throughout the NFC Playoffs as the top seed.

Played at GS: 2009-2012; 2012 first-team All-American, 2012 first-team All-Southern Conference

Vitals: Cairo, GA (Cairo HS)

Antwione Williams, LB, Detroit Lions

Stats: 14 GP, 3 GS ... 27 tackles

Wrap-Up: Williams saw significant playing time for the Detroit Lions in his rookie season. The fifth-round draft pick started three games for the Lions and saw a lot of action on special teams as well. He had four tackles four different times and will now move on to the Playoffs as the Lions earned the No. 6 seed. They'll play at Seattle on Saturday.

Played at GS: 2011-2014; two-time honorable mentions All-Sun Belt Conference

Vitals: Lovejoy, GA (Lovejoy HS)

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